for Railway Affecting Works to be uniformally adopted all over the country. This manual of instruction has been circulated to all State Goverments for approval and adoption.

As per the laid down procedures, the parties owning the 'Railway Affecting Works' should regularly inspect and maintain these works as per the approved procedures and schedule laid down in the manual. Any repair or strengthening has to be carried out by them with utmost expedition before the onset of monsoon. Any request from Railway administration in connection with strengthening, repairs and maintenance and operation of all such works to esure safety of Railway lines is to be attended with promptitude. As per the laid down procedure, in case of any apprehended danger, or actual damage to a 'Railway Affecting work' which might affect the safety of Railway lines, immediate action has to be taken by the party concerned to advise the Station Master and the Railway Engineer concerned so as to enable the Railway officials to take immediate precautionary measures to ensure safety of trains. The Railway engineer and the authorities owning the railway Affecting works also have to arrange with local authorities/village head men in whose jurisdiction 'Railway Affecting Works' are situated to watch them during periods of heavy rains and give timely intimation to nearest Station Master, if there is likelihood of their failure. The Railway engineer in charge of the section also declares any section, which is likely to be affected by non-compliance of the urgently required repairs etc, as vulnerable and makes suitable arrangements for posting of Patrol men/Watchmen at the desired locations during heavy rains. These watchman/patrol men keep a watch at the vulnerable location and are equipped with signals to be displayed to the driver/guard of the train as well as detonators to be put on track for stopping or slowing the trains as required.

Rail accidents caused by Human Failure

1178. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rail accidents that happened during 2003 and 2004 due to human failure;

(b) whether the inquiry reports compiled by the Rail Safety Directorate after each accident have been implemented; and

(c) if so, the reasons for rail accidents in the first 10 months of 2005 due to human failure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Out of 559 consequential train accidents during 2003-04 and 2004-05, 465 consequential train accidents have been attributed to human failure. Out of these, 280 have been on account of failure of Railway Staff and 185 on account of failure of other than Railway Staff.

(b) Safety Directorate of Ministry of Railways in consultation with other Directorates examines all the inquiry reports submitted by the Commission of Railway Safety and Judicial Commissions..during 2003-04 and 2004-05, 85 report of the Commission of Railway Safety have been examined in the Ministry of Railways containing 767 recommendations, out of which 693 recommendations have been accepted and 74 could not be accepted due to feasibility, practicality, financial and operational implications. During 2003-04 and 2004-05, inquiry report of G C Garg Judicial Commission has also been examined in the Ministry of Railways containing 44 recommendations, out of which 23 recommendations have been accepted, 17 have been partially accepted and remaining 4 could not be accepted as these pertains to educational qualification, recently revamped safety organization on Zonal Railways and technical matter on testing of rails.

(c) During the period from January, 2005 to October, 2005, out of 199* consequential train accidents, 105* have been attributed to the Failure of Railway Staff due to lapses on their part while performing duties and 67* have occurred on account of Failure of other than Railway Staff.

More payment option for purchasing train tickets

1179. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a recommendation by an Expert Group for more payment option for purchasing train tickets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(* Figures are provisional)